



Idaho Falls, Idaho  
September 26, 1953

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Abram Chase H. Ray Hatch

Henry Ray Hatch, A.B., A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S., son of and Harriet Maria (Luke) Hatch, born April 20, 1886, Ashley, Uinta County, in the first cabin built in Ashley Valley. This cabin was the home of my father's eldest sister, Minnie (Hatch) Dodds, and her husband, Pardon Dodds, pioneers of Ashley Valley. At that time, my father was manager of the "Hatch Horse and Cattle Company", a partnership with his father, President Abram Hatch of Wasatch Stake, and his brother Joseph Hatch. Thier home was at Heber, Utah. Their cattle and horses were on Blue Mountain, to the east of Ashley, and on White River for the winter range. For some reason my parents found themselves in Ashley at the time of my birth.

As a child I was reared in Heber, Utah, sith such absences as our cattle interests took my parents to Ashley and to Blue Mountain and White River. My environment was therefore a part of the "wild and woolley" West, with its poverty, its profanity, its drunkenness, its vulgarity, its banditry, as well as its industry, its courage, its honesty, its loyalty, its stoicism, its resourcefulness, its independence.

My parents were members of record only of the Church. Except for a defensive loyalty, they were generally indifferent to, if not antagonistic to the program of the Church. Upon occasion, I went to Sunday School and Primary. More often, I worshipped (not) in the "great outdoors" with my gun, my fishing tackle, my traps, my dog, my horse. Neither I nor any of my Hatch cousins were baptized when we were children.

When I began school, the grading was Chart Class and First to Fifth "Reader". In December 1899, my Blue Mountain mustang dragged me nearly to death at the end of my lariat in which my foot had become tangled. During the subsequent three months of putting me together again, I got the idea of becoming a doctor. And, while the continuity of this ambition was occasionally interrupted, it was finally achieved at my graduation from Rush Medical College, August 31, 1910.

My accident in 1899 cost me a school year so that I was graduated from the "Fifth Reader", which had come to be also the Eighth grade, in May, 1901. I gave the Valedictory address at the graduation exercises.

1901-1908 at the University of Utah Preparatory School and College and Medical College, President of Class of 1903. June 3, 1908, graduated from University of Utah, A.B. and Two Year Medical Certificate.

June 4, 1908, married Mary Leona Miles, at her home, No. 12 South First West Street, Salt Lake City. My grandfather, President Abram Hatch, then an ordained Patriarch, performed the ceremony. My wife was the fourth of seven, subsequently prominent daughters of William Allan Miles and Lucretia Ann (Wightman) Miles. She was born at Payson, Utah, January 2, 1889. In order to secure better educational facilities the family moved to Salt Lake City when Mary Leona was nine years old. There she finished the grades at the nearby Fremont School, then graduated from the Salt Lake High School in 1907. During 1908, she attended the University of Utah where she completed a program of credits with which to continue as a Junior.

Much to her regret, marriage interrupted her college program. However, autumn of 1908 found her registered in the Chicago College of Pharmacy, where she completed (with excellence) the first year which brought to a PAUSE her school career. She completed a course "Decorative China Painting at Chicago Art Institute 1909-1910.

There was not, however, a pause in her real education. Continually and consistently interspersed between and among her successful roles of wife, mother of five sons, grandmother of twenty-six grandchildren, bookkeeper, nurse, anesthetist, at the office and surgical assistant, or anesthetist at the local hospitals, Sunday School Teacher, Stake MIA counselor, and then President, Member Stake Relief Society Board, then President, District PTA President, etc., etc., she found time to satiate her hunger and thirst after wisdom, as an avid reader of good books, at seminars, at lectures, in the organizations of the church and through travel. She mastered many literary offerings in her "perfection" preparations to teach in services of Relief Society, Sunday School and MIA. During the seven and half years of my (Stake) Presidency, she entertained with warmth, skill and generosity. She won the lasting appreciation and praise of the visiting brethren, as an outstanding hostess. Her selfless devotion to, encouragement of and cooperation with her husband and her sons were and are undoubtedly contributions without which their successes would probably never have been envisioned, not to say, brought into reality.

According to the patriarchal promise of her girlhood with unusual energetic drive and a slogan "He can who thinks He can", she has been "able to resist temptation;" "to soar above the things of earth;" to fulfill, with honor, responsible positions (within and without the church); She has become "One of the Noble Women".

October 1908 entered Rush Medical College, Chicago. August 1910, associated with "Mormons" at Paulina Street Chapel, headquarters for the Northern States Mission as well as the Chicago Branch of the Northern States Mission. Was brought into the valuable acquaintanceships of President German E. Ellsworths, his wife, Mary, and his Mission Secretary Royal J. Murdock; also such stalwart fellow students as Albert E. Bowen, Robert Judd, Harvey Fletcher, Preston Nibley, Lester A. Stevenson, Thomas Ray Gledhi. Missionaries Eugene Poulson, Joseph H. Geddes, George Liljenquist, David Latimer, etc., etc. These, each and all, made belssed influence on me. During the forty / years they have remained admired friends.

October 28, 1909, at Chicago, baptized about 11:00 p.m. by Joseph A. Geddes and confirmed by David A. Latimer, assisted by Joseph A. Geddes and George Liljenquist.

February 1910 orgained a Priest by Nathaniel Johnson, President of the Chicago Branch.

August 31, 1910, graduated M.D. Rush Medical College in affiliation with University of Chicago.

October 1910, licensed to practice medicine in Utah by written examination. Began practice in Heber, Utah.

November? December? 1910, orgained an Elder by Robert Duke of Heber First Ward and set apart as Superintendent of Sunday Schools.

1911? set apart as President, First Elders Quorum, Wasatch Stake.

November 18, 1910, first child, William Ray Hatch, born at Heber, Utah

1911-1912? Set apart as First Counselor to Charles N. Broadbent of the Wasatch Stake YMMIA. James R. Smith, Second Counselor.

October 24, 1915. Ordained High Priest by Heber J. Grant and set apart as junior alternate High Councilman, Wasatch Stake.

1914? Mayor of Heber City, elected by a majority of two votes over Bishop Joseph A. Rasband. I was the first Republican Mayor Heber. Two years before I had been unsuccessful candidate for mayor against John E. Moulton of the High Council. These brethren and I were both best of friends as long as they lived.

1916? Set apart as second counselor to Stake President Joseph R. Murdock, to succeed President Edward D. Clyde, deceased. James C. Jensen was First Counselor. George M. Jorgenson was Stake Clerk followed by David A. Broadbent.

1916-1918 Studying hospitals, with view to establishment of a hospital under my charge at Roosevelt, Utah.

1918. 1st Lt. Medical Corps, U.S.A. First World War, assigned to M.O.T.C., Fort Ogelthorpe, Georgia. Left my wife who was pregnant and our four little boys to go into the Army, this on counsel of President Murdock, and President Charles W. Penrose. It was a rich and profitable experience - very strenuous for my beloved, faithful wife.

December 20, 1918. Honorable discharge from U.S. Army. Returned home on Christmas day 1918.

In 1918 and early 1919. Practice at Heber, during terrible (graveyard fattening) "Flu" epidemic, where people seemed to die "like flies."

March 30, 1919. Birth of youngest son, Charles Stevan Hatch.

April 1919. Inspected Idaho Falls as prospective location for our future home.

May 1919. Counseled President Heber J. Grant regarding release from Wasatch Stake Presidency and move to Idaho Falls. Was set apart by President Heber J. Grant, Anthon H. Lund and Charles W. Penrose as a "Missionary" etc., to move to Idaho Falls in connection with the proposed Idaho Falls L.D.S. Hospital.

June 1910, made survey of hospitals at Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Kansas City, in company with President Edward T. Ashton, subsequent building of the Hospital, and architect H. Newton Thorton.

August 1919. Having sold our holdings at Heber, and renting a house at Idaho Falls, we left Heber intending to move to our new home. However, just prior to the arrival of our furniture, etc., the house rented in Idaho Falls was sold. Unable to secure quarters (probably because of our five boys) at Idaho Falls, we finally secured a basement apartment in Salt Lake City where we existed until April 7, 1920, when we arrived in Idaho Falls by train and moved into, the just finished, back rooms of our present home, 558 G. Street. We had purchased a lot on a sand hill and had begun construction the preceeding fall, 1919.

April 1920 to date, 1953, practicing medicine and working in the Church, Idaho Falls. Frequent study trips throughout U.S.A.

July 1920. Appointed to Bingham State (later Idaho Falls Stake) Sunday School Board, under G. Henry Johnson.

1921? Set apart alternate High Councilman by Melvin J. Ballard. Subsequently as High Councilman and for years, Senior High Councilman. At creation of North Idaho Falls Stake, set apart Senior High Councilman.

June 8, 1923. After having submitted my credits from University of Chicago and a thesis, prepared in absence, I was granted a Master of Arts Degree from Brigham Young University.

October 1929. Elected a "Fellow of the American College of Surgeons", at the Convention of the College at Chicago.

1947. Appointed a "Governor (for Idaho) of the American College of Surgeons," serving until October, 1950.

January 1927. With my wife, sailed for study in England, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Hungary, also visited Holland, Germany.

September 30, 1945. Set apart President, North Idaho Falls Stake, by Elder John A. Widstoe. My counselors, Grant M. Andrus and Reuel M. Nielson, Sylvan Olson, clerk.

I served two terms as President of the Idaho Falls Medical Society, and two terms as Chief of Staff, Idaho Falls L.D.S. Hospital where I have practiced as a Surgeon since its opening, October 1923.

I have not found time for membership of nor interest in Lodges, Service Clubs or other societies. My Church has always seemed generously adequate for my urges, hopes, aspirations and all of the time available from my strenuous intriguing "Ministry to the Sick and the Afflicted."

Although constantly engaged in Church Service since my baptism, I have not been called to official "Missionary Service."

CONCLUSION: I have a living, motivating, satisfying and comforting assurance and testimony "of the Spirit"; that:

1. Joseph Smith, the Prophet, was a prophet,
2. That he saw what he said he saw.
3. That he heard all that he said he heard,
4. That he was commissioned wherewithal he said he was commissioned,
5. That under Divine direction he organized the "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints" as the "Kingdom of God" upon the Earth and the Custodian of the "Gospel of Jesus Christ" and of the Holy Priesthood, which is the power that makes the "gospel" operative in the lives of "men".
6. That the successors of the Prophet Joseph Smith have been divinely appointed and authorized Presidents of the Church,—Prophets, Seers and Revelators.

I convey to the Archives of the Church this testimony, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Redeemer—

Amen,

Signed Henry Ray Hatch  
President, North Idaho Falls,  
Stake of Zion